

Federal Communications Commission  
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Chairman Michael K. Powell  
Commissioner Kathleen Q.

Commissioner Michael J.

Commissioner Kevin J.

Reference: FCC Docket Nos 96-45, 98-171, 90-571, 92-237, 99-200, 95-116, 98-170  
and NSD File No. L-00-72.

Dear FCC:

I am writing to complain about the proposed changes to the Universal Service Fund and requesting that the FCC investigate this matter further before changing the current policy. Your proposed \$1.00 per month charge for all wireless phones will directly impact my ability to retain my wireless service.

I do not think it is fair to charge EVERYBODY \$1.00 dollar regardless of how they use their wireless phone, especially for a low-volume user that relies on wireless service for safety and security, not interstate calls. The current policy is fair, based on interstate usage, and should be left alone. Please do not penalize us. Keep this fair.

Is this another "Gore" tax? Or like the tax to pay for the Spanish/American War that lasted over 100 years?

First, rural service exists, with the analog or dual band phones.

Second, digital service will only be expanded into rural areas when the demand for it is there. Taxing urban users to raise money to pay for rural service expansion is not going to accomplish anything, because the service providers still won't get the repeater towers built. Rural cell service is not going to be viable until new technologies come along. 900MHz service where current phones operate have too short a range, and no company will, or should, build a cell tower every 20 miles across all of the US. It isn't going to happen anyway, so why should we pay for a pipe dream for the next 100 years! And then there's no one to use it.

Third, you're taxing large numbers of "small time - local" users (like myself) who rarely travel and never use our phones out of our home area (which happens to be a metropolitan area that already has digital coverage). Tax roaming fees, or out of state useage, on a per/minute (not flat) basis, so those who use do the paying. Or tax the rural population, since they're the ones who are getting all the benefit.

Or better yet, give a tax break to companies that facilitate rural digital service, either by increased range or new protocols, or by building the towers under the existing technology anyway. Solve problems, don't just throw money at them.

Thank you for your prompt attention to this matter. Please provide a written response indicating the status/resolution of this matter.

Very truly yours,

RJ Eimer  
3506 E 5th Pl

CC: FCC Subcommittee Members